

**From:** [Alicia Dawson](#)  
**To:** [East Anglia ONE North](#); [East Anglia Two](#)  
**Cc:** [Andrews, Stuart](#); [Wells, Liz](#)  
**Subject:** East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Examinations - NGV written submission - Deadline 3  
**Date:** 15 December 2020 16:49:00  
**Attachments:** [image007.png](#)  
[image008.png](#)  
[image009.png](#)  
[NGV Response to Examination Deadline 3\\_15 December 2020\\_submitted.pdf](#)

---

**IP reference numbers: 20024636 (East Anglia ONE North) and 20024639 (East Anglia TWO)**


Dear Sir/Madam,

Following our attendance at ISH2 day 1, please find attached National Grid Ventures written submission to Deadline 3 for both the East Anglia ONE North and East Anglia TWO Examinations.

Kind regards

**Alicia Dawson**

Contract Consents Officer – National Grid Ventures

  
Suite 9C Josephs Well, Hanover Walk, Leeds, LS3 1AB



[peacockandsmith.co.uk](https://www.peacockandsmith.co.uk)



This e-mail is for the use of the intended recipient(s) only. If you have received this e-mail in error, please notify the sender immediately and then delete it. If you are not the intended recipient, you must not use, disclose or distribute this e-mail without the author's prior permission. We have taken precautions to minimise the risk of transmitting software viruses, but we advise you to carry out your own virus checks on any attachment to this message. We cannot accept liability for any loss or damage caused by software viruses. If you are the intended recipient and you do not wish to receive similar electronic messages from us in future then please respond to the sender to this effect.

Registered address: Westwood House, 78 Loughborough Road, Quorn, Leicestershire, LE12 8DX  
Registration No. 0130 6847

# National Grid Ventures (NGV) Written Response to East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Examinations Deadline 3

15th December 2020

NGV IP reference numbers: 20024636 (East Anglia ONE North) and 20024639 (East Anglia TWO)

## **Introduction**

Following our attendance at day one of Issue Specific Hearing 2 on the 2nd December 2020, the Examining Authority requested NGV submit a written response to Examination Deadline 3 to provide clarity on our proposals in East Suffolk. Further information on the current status of our proposals and connection agreement position is provided below.

## **Nautilus and EuroLink Multi-purpose Interconnectors (MPIs)**

Nautilus is a proposed 1.4 gigawatts<sup>1</sup> (GW) high voltage direct current (HVDC) electricity link between GB and Belgium.

EuroLink is a proposed 1.4 gigawatts (GW) high voltage direct current (HVDC) electricity link between GB and the Netherlands.

In September 2020 NGV announced that both Nautilus and EuroLink Interconnector projects have been reclassified as multi-purpose interconnectors (MPIs); a new generation of interconnector that will connect multiple offshore wind farms via a singular transmission line, enabling the export of excess clean energy and reducing the impact of infrastructure on coastal communities.

Both Nautilus and EuroLink are currently in feasibility stages of project development. Should the projects proceed, they could be operational pre-2030, subject to gaining development consent and final investment decisions for each project.

---

<sup>1</sup>Although our proposal is for a 1.4GW interconnector for Nautilus, the connection agreement with the National Grid Electricity System Operator (NGESO) refers to 1.5 GW. For interconnectors, 1.4GW is the power which is seen at the receiving substation end i.e. if power is flowing from UK to Belgium then the power at the substation connection point in Belgium will be 1.4GW. In order to achieve 1.4GW in Belgium, the exported power from the UK will need to be higher than 1.4GW to allow for losses as part of electricity transmission. Therefore, as part of our connection agreement with the NGESO for Nautilus we requested a higher power capacity, hence the 1.5GW.

## Connection Agreements within the Leiston Area

NGV has connection agreements with the NGENSO (National Grid Electricity System Operator) within the Leiston area for both Nautilus and EuroLink. Each of these agreements provide a grid connection to a new 400 kilovolts (kV) substation located close to the Sizewell 400kV network, provisionally referred to as 'Leiston 400kV'. The connection agreements relate to an area rather than a specific location.

The proposed NGET substation at Friston is the location proposed by SPR on the Sizewell 400kV network.

## Consideration of Connections to the Proposed NGET Substation at Friston

NGV feasibility work to date has been based on an assumption that the proposed NGET substation at Friston (which forms part of SPR's proposals for East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two) is a potential connection point, given that the proposed Friston substation is at an advanced stage of consenting (via the DCO process). Therefore, initial routeing and siting work has been based on the reasonable assumption of a potential connection location at the proposed Friston substation. Further feasibility work will be undertaken in 2021, including due diligence on the options available for connection in the Leiston area in line with the connection agreements.

While NGV have engaged in early discussions with stakeholders and maintained a dialogue with the ESO, at no point has this translated into a confirmed connection at Friston. As per NGV's draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with the Applicant (document reference: ExA.SoCG-19.D1.V1) neither the Nautilus or EuroLink projects are at a sufficient stage of project definition to confirm whether the proposed NGET substation will present a viable connection location.

However, NGV are concerned to ensure that the proposals for the EA2 and EA1N projects as it relates to the new NGET substation (and the surrounding area) do not unnecessarily limit or restrict the potential for the Nautilus and EuroLink projects to connect to the proposed NGET substation at Friston. However, NGV acknowledge that this is a matter for NGET.

## Consideration of Other Connection Options

In the context of connection agreements referencing a new substation in the Leiston area (without a specific location) and in addition to the NGV feasibility studies assuming connection at the proposed NGET Friston substation (promoted by SPR), feasibility assessments for both Nautilus and EuroLink will also consider other potential connection options in the Leiston area. This assessment process will be undertaken in consultation with NGET, in response to the engineering requirements of both projects and will be required whether or not the proposed Friston NGET substation is consented.

Given the timescales associated with developing a project, including development of cable routeing corridors and converter station siting options which would usually be based on a connection location, it is necessary for NGV to consider the fallback options for siting of a new substation. It is intended that this aspect of feasibility will be focused upon in 2021. Proximity to the Sizewell 400kV overhead line is a key consideration for informing potential connection options in the Leiston area.

Other key considerations include sufficient space for construction and operation of a substation facility, including associated infrastructure, and potential environmental impacts.

## Nautilus Interconnector Briefing Pack and FAQs Documents

In July 2019 we published a Briefing Pack for our proposed Nautilus Interconnector Project to assist in early engagement activities with stakeholders. In May 2020 we published an updated version of our Frequently Asked Questions document. Each of these publicly available documents set out that National Grid ESO have provided NGV with grid connection to a new 400 kilovolts (kV) substation located close to the Sizewell 400kV network, provisionally referred to as 'Leiston 400kV'. As SPR's proposals for the Friston substation were already advanced and in order to aid transparency with stakeholders and community groups, the Briefing Pack and FAQs both presented NGV's working position in reliance upon the potential connection to the proposed Friston substation. NGV shared some initial siting and routing options within the Briefing Pack (July 2019) on the basis of a connection to the proposed NGET substation at Friston. The project information in the Briefing Pack (July 2019) and FAQs (May 2020) is based on routing and siting options assuming a connection to the proposed Friston substation. The purpose of this approach was to allow NGV to progress feasibility stage engagement and assessments for a project assuming a possible connection to the proposed Friston substation (although the feasibility stage, as noted above, also allows for consideration of other potential connection options in the Leiston area).

Since these documents were published, both Nautilus and EuroLink have been re-classified as MPIs. The Briefing Pack and FAQs also make reference to EIA Scoping for Nautilus in 2021. As feasibility work is to continue into 2021, EIA Scoping is now anticipated for Nautilus in Q1 2022. Further public updates will be provided as our proposals develop and, in turn, by reference to the determination of the East Anglia One North and East Anglia Two Examinations.

## Current Position in Context of Cumulative Impact Assessment

Feasibility studies for Nautilus and EuroLink are currently ongoing and we continue to define our project parameters following the decision to progress Nautilus and EuroLink as MPIs.

For Nautilus, we are anticipating to undertake community consultation on potential site and cable options late summer 2021, followed by submission of an EIA Scoping request in Q1 2022. Detailed timescales are not yet available for EuroLink, although both Nautilus and EuroLink could be operational pre-2030.

As per NGV's draft SoCG with the Applicant (document reference: ExA.SoCG-19.D1.V1) we are satisfied that at present neither Nautilus or EuroLink are sufficiently defined to allow for the reasonable assessment of cumulative impacts. There will not be sufficient information available to allow for this until our proposals reach EIA Scoping stage which is not anticipated until Q1 2022 for Nautilus; the first of the two projects to come forward. This approach is in accordance with Planning Inspectorate Advice Note 17 (2018).

Any future application for development consent by NGV in this location would consider the cumulative impact of our proposals in the context of EA1N and EA2 and any other developments as appropriate. NGV continue to liaise and positively engage with SPR and will seek to reduce potential

impact on the local area through sharing information on our proposals and coordinating approaches wherever possible.